

Message Text

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44

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

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FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4321

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEHRAN 7652

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, IR

SUBJECT: ROYAL DECREE ON CORRUPTION

REF: TEHRAN A-105, JUNE 20, 1972

1. OCTOBER 30 PRESS REPORTS, CONFIRMED AS GENERALLY ACCURATE BY A SOURCE IN THE PRIME MINISTER(S) OFFICE, DESCRIBE ORDERS FROM SHAH PUTTING CIVIL SERVANTS OF ALL RANKS ON NOTICE OF GOI CRACKDOWN ON ALP FOROSF

FAVORITISM AND CORRUPTIC. FOUR MAIN POINTS FOLLOW:

A. GOI EMPLOYEES, REGARDLESS OF RANK, CANNOT BE INVOLVED IN PROFIT-MAKING ENTERPRISES IN THE PUBLIC SECTOR.

B. CIVIL SERVANTS SHOULD IN NO CIRCUMSTANCES BE INVOLVED IN INFLUENCE PEDDLING CONCERNING APPOINTMENTS OR LETTING OF GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS OR OTPRTYDUSANY ATTEMPTS TO VIOLATE THIS PREMISE MUST BE REPORTED TO THE PRIME MINISTER WHO IN RETURN WILL BE REQUIRED TO SUBMIT A REPORT TO THE SHAH.

C. EXCEPT WHEN THE PUBLIC INTEREST IS INVOLVED AND WITH PRIOR PERMISSION, THERE SHOULD BE NO EXCEPTION TO THE REGULATIONS REQUIRING THAT TENDERS OR BIDS BE
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SUBMITTED FOR GOI PROJECTS. WHEN EXCEPTIONS ARE MADE,

WEEKLY REPORTS MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE PRIME MINISTER
WHO IN TURN WILL REPORT TO THE SHAH.

D. OFFICIALS ARE PROHIBITED FROM GRANTING OF SUBSIDIES
OR ANY OTHER FORMS OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO THE PRESS.
ALL GOVERNMENT ADVERTISEMENTS WILL BE CHanneled THROUGH
THE INFORMATION MINISTRY.

2. THE DIRECTIVE ALSO GIVES CIVIL SERVANTS THREE
MONTHS TO DIVEST THEMSELVES OF OUTSIDE INTERESTS IN
COMMERCIAL ENTERPRISES OR GIVE UP THEIR OFFICIAL POSITIONS.
IT ALSO REITERATES NECESSITY FOR STRICT ECONOMY IN
GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS AND RESTRICTS OFFICIAL ENTER-
TAINMENT.

3. COMMENT: SERIOUS GOI ENFORCEMENT OF ORDER COULD
CAUSE EMBARRASSMENT TO SOME HIGH GOI OFFICIALS. HIGH
OFFICIALS HAVE OFTEN BEEN INVOLVED IN PRIVATE BUSINESS
BUT AS NOTED IN REFERENCE AIRGRAM, MANY PRACTICES WHICH
IN WESTERN COUNTRIES WOULD BE CONSIDERED CORRUPT HAVE
BEEN GENERALLY ACCEPTED AS STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE
IN IRAN. AS YOUNGER WESTERN-EDUCATED TECHNOCRATS RISE
TO HIGHER POSITIONS IN GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE SECTOR,
OLD WAYS COMING UNDER GREATER SCRUTINY AND CRITICISM.
PROSPECT OF A CONCERTED GOI EFFORT TO ERADICATE SOME
HERTOFORE ACCEPTABLE WAYS OF DOING BUSINESS IS
ENCOURAGING, BUT PROGRESS NECES
EARLY WILL BE SLOW.
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